

For immediate release:
February 2, 2006

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Health for All Kansans Committee to seek accessible and affordable health care

First meeting of Steering Committee is Friday, Feb. 9

Earlier this week, the Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA) Board announced the formation of the Health for All Kansans Steering Committee. On Friday, February 9, the Committee will have its first meeting.

"This Committee is critical to the health reform process. They will seek specific ways to move toward the larger picture of health access for all," said Marcia Nielsen, PhD, MPH, Executive Director of Kansas Health Policy Authority. "I look forward to working alongside the other eleven members of the Committee as we seek workable solutions to barriers related to Kansans' health."

The Health for All Kansans Committee will take the lead in collaborating with the Governor, legislators, and interested parties in developing policies that will promote health and affordable health care. The first meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, February 9, at Eisenhower State Office Building, 4th Floor, West Wing, Auditorium B, 701 SW Harrison, Topeka.

The Committee was formed at Governor Kathleen Sebelius' request to the board to form a task force to look at ways to address health access and affordability. Many state legislators also extended their interest in participating in such a task force.

"The fact that the Health Policy Authority has taken up this effort is very good news for Kansans," said Governor Sebelius. "By building a consensus of civic leaders, community members, and those in the health industry, we will craft a unified vision for bringing health care to every Kansan." Sebelius will speak to the committee at 1:30 p.m.

At this first meeting, the committee will discuss specific initiatives which will address these critical areas, assign legislative policy options to be developed by the KHPA Health Policy Team, and finally, schedule the next meeting, which will take place within the following three to four weeks.

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